

Application No. 09/257,902 (Zlotkin)
Amendment dated February 24, 2004
Reply to Action of February 12, 2004

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LISTING OF CLAIMS

Claims 1 to 50 (cancelled)

51. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of:

(a) a packaging material; and

(b) a composition contained within said packaging material, wherein the composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of microencapsulated iron granules in combination with an excipient, wherein the excipient is an edible oil in hydrogenated form, and optionally, one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient.

52. (previously added) An article of manufacture of claim 51, wherein the composition consists essentially of: an admixture of microencapsulated iron granules in combination with the excipient, and one or more of a bioavailable form of a compound selected from zinc, vitamin A, iodine and ascorbic acid.

53. (cancelled)

54. (previously added) An article of manufacture of claim 51, wherein the iron granules are no more than about 850 microns in diameter.

55. (previously added) An article of manufacture of claim 51, wherein the iron granules are encapsulated with a coating, said coating being prepared from a compound selected from the group consisting of monoglycerides, diglycerides, ethyl cellulose, hydrogenated soy bean oil and mixtures thereof.

56. (cancelled)

57. (previously added) An article of manufacture of claim 51, wherein the composition contains one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient.

58. (previously added) An article of manufacture of claim 51, wherein the composition contains one or more of a bioavailable form of a compound selected from zinc, vitamin A, iodine and ascorbic acid.

59. (cancelled)

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60. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of: claim 59

- (a) a packaging material; and
- (b) a composition contained within a sachet ~~said packaging material~~, wherein said composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of a single daily dose of a therapeutically effective amount of elemental iron as microencapsulated iron granules in combination with an excipient, and optionally, one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient.

61. (currently amended) An article of manufacture of claim 60 59, wherein the composition consists essentially of: an admixture of microencapsulated iron granules in combination with the excipient, and one or more of a bioavailable form of a compound selected from zinc, vitamin A, iodine and ascorbic acid.

62. (currently amended) An article of manufacture of claim 60 59, wherein the excipient is an edible oil in hydrogenated form.

63. (currently amended) An article of manufacture of claim 60 59, wherein the iron granules are no more than about 850 microns in diameter.

64. (currently amended) An article of manufacture of claim 60 59, wherein the iron granules are encapsulated with a coating, said coating being prepared from a compound selected from the group consisting of monoglycerides, diglycerides, ethyl cellulose, hydrogenated soy bean oil and mixtures thereof.

65. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of: claim 59,

- (a) a packaging material; and
- (b) a composition contained within said packaging material, wherein said composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of a single daily dose of a therapeutically effective amount of elemental iron as microencapsulated iron granules in combination with an excipient, and optionally, one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient, and wherein:
- (c) the iron granules are encapsulated with a coating selected from the group

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consisting of monoglycerides, diglycerides, ethyl cellulose, hydrogenated soy bean oil and mixtures thereof; and the excipient is an edible oil in hydrogenated form.

66. (previously added) An article of manufacture of claim 60 ~~59~~, wherein the composition contains one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient.

67. (previously added) An article of manufacture of claim 60 ~~59~~, wherein the composition contains one or more of a bioavailable form of a compound selected from zinc, vitamin A, iodine and ascorbic acid.

68. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of: ~~claim 51, wherein said excipient is~~

(a) a packaging material; and

(b) a composition contained within said packaging material, wherein the composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of microencapsulated iron granules in combination with a lipid-based excipient, and optionally, one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient.

69. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of: ~~claim 52~~

(a) a packaging material; and

(b) a composition contained within said packaging material, wherein the composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of microencapsulated iron granules in combination with, wherein said excipient is a lipid-based excipient, and one or more of a bioavailable form of a compound selected from zinc, vitamin A, iodine and ascorbic acid.

70. (currently amended) An article of manufacture of claim 53, wherein said excipient ~~excipient~~ is a lipid-based excipient.

71. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of: ~~claim 57~~

(a) a packaging material; and

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(b) a composition contained within said packaging material, wherein the composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of microencapsulated iron granules in combination with, wherein said excipient is a lipid-based excipient, and one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient.

72. (currently amended) An article of manufacture of claim 60, wherein said excipient ~~excipient~~ is a lipid-based excipient.

73. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of claim 64:

(a) a packaging material; and

(b) a composition contained within said packaging material, wherein said composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of a single daily dose of a therapeutically effective amount of elemental iron as microencapsulated iron granules in combination with, wherein said excipient is a lipid-based excipient, and one or more of a bioavailable form of a compound selected from zinc, vitamin A, iodine and ascorbic acid.

74. (currently amended) An article of manufacture consisting essentially of: ~~claim 66~~

(a) a packaging material; and

(b) a composition contained within said packaging material, wherein said composition consists essentially of that formed upon admixture of a single daily dose of a therapeutically effective amount of elemental iron as microencapsulated iron granules in combination with, wherein said excipient is a lipid-based excipient, and one or more of a bioavailable form of an additional micronutrient.

75. (currently amended) An article of manufacture of claim 67, wherein said excipient ~~excipient~~ is a lipid-based excipient.